

A Note About Our Weekly Dibrei Torah
Our Debar Torah this week is written by **Rabbi Joseph Dweck**, the senior Rabbi of the S&P Community of the United Kingdom. Over the course of this year, in addition to our Shearith Israel cast of writers, we will expose you to guest Debar Torah contributors from other Spanish and Portuguese communities around the world.

Sign up for the Spring Semester of Caregiver and Me Toddler Program
Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30-11:30am
For ages 16 - 34 months
Begins January 4, 2017
Led by our veteran early childhood specialist, Liz Rios, toddlers learn colors and shapes, create arts and crafts, sing songs, explore Jewish holidays, music and enjoy special visits by Rabbi Ira Rohde. Spaces are limited. 1 or 2 day options. Preferred pricing for members. Register now at shearithisrael.org/toddlerprogram.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
Thank you to everyone, our hard working staff and volunteers, the trusted vendors, the many generous attendees and supporters, and of course, our fabulous honorees, Arnie T. Goldfarb, Peter Neustader and Leon Hyman and his talented choir, who made our gala a wonderful success. A special shout out to Jill Lamstein and her team from Above and Beyond Caterers.


Shearith Israel Cufflinks
Did you see the fabulous sterling silver cufflinks we presented to our gala honorees? You too can look like a CSI hero for only \$180 a pair. Treat yourself, a friend or loved one with a Hanukkah gift. Order by December 8 at shearithisrael.org/cufflinks



Parnas Office Hours
Louis Solomon would be delighted to meet with you. Please schedule a visit at parnas@shearithisrael.org.

Our next public tour is:
Wednesday, November 9 at 11:00 am

Playing the Part
Rabbi Joseph Dweck, Senior Rabbi
of the S&P Sephardi Community of the United Kingdom
There once was a small village in which there were exactly ten Jewish men over the age of bar mitzvah. Each of the men knew that his presence at the daily minyan was essential, so every morning each man attended synagogue without fail in order to ensure there would be a minyan. One day, a new family moved to the village and there was finally an eleventh man who could help the minyan! The next morning he was the only one in synagogue. There are unique moments in life when we are presented with an opportunity to do good, support a constructive cause or lend a helping hand. A sacred duty for us is to recognise when we can partake of such endeavours and participate. We might not, however, always be inclined to engage if we are not sure that our involvement will make a direct difference in the situation at hand. We learn from a tender moment in Parashat Noah that even being part of a positive endeavour, albeit not directly affecting the outcome, is a blessed and meaningful act. At the end of the epic flood narrative this week, we read of an act of honour and kindness. Shem, the son of Noah, finds his sleeping father exposed as a result of having been drunk. Unlike his brother Ham, who left his father in his exposed state, Shem, along with his brother Yefet, cover their father in a most respectful way. Rashi points out¹ that we see Shem as the initiator from the fact that the verse uses the singular for the verb לִקַּח- 'to take' (9:23) when mentioning that he took the blanket to use as the cover. Instead of saying "they took" - *vayikhu*, it says "he took" *vayikah*, indicating that Shem took the garment and Yefet assisted. Yefet saw the opportunity to participate in the good deed and assisted Shem. Yefet is praised and blessed by his father, along with Shem, for taking part. Yefet knew that Shem's goal would've been met without his participation. Why then, was it worth acting even when the contribution may not have made a difference in the outcome? Yefet knew that although he was not the driving force behind the kindness, he nonetheless had the ability to become part of it. He saw participation *itself* as a value and knew that it was something with which he wanted to be connected. We shape our identities and the world around us not only by the differences we make but also by the elements with which we choose to engage. We could be the 71st person in synagogue or a face in the crowd of a virtuous event; the services and event may well go on similarly with or without us, but being part touches our lives and places us in the positive environment. There is value in being part of good even when we are not the ones who will ensure its particular achievement. It strengthens our own resolve for virtue and it casts our vote in favour of what is righteous and honourable. As we live life in this world we must not only consider how we might improve it, we must also endorse the worthiness that already exists within it.

 **CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL**
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

Shabbat Noah
November 4-5, 2016

Hertz Pentateuch: p. 26; Haftarah p. 41
Kaplan Living Torah: p. 26; : Haftarah p. 1054

CANDLE LIGHTING | 5:30 pm
MINHAH | 5:30 pm | Main Sanctuary
FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS | Following evening services | Rabbi Soloveichik gives a talk on the topic "The Michelin Guide and Shalom Aleichem: A Foodie's Reflection on a Beloved Sabbath Song" | *2016-2017 season sponsored by the Julis Family*

ZEMIROT | 8:15 am | Main Sanctuary
SHAHARIT (NISHMAT) | 9:00 am | Rabbi Soloveichik delivers a lecture on the topic "Redemption, Curses and The Cubs: A Chicagoan's Shiur"
TOT SHABBAT WITH LIZ AND SHANADE | Ages 0-4 | 10:00 am | Levy Auditorium
YOUTH GROUPS WITH RACHEL | Ages 5-12 | 10:00 am | Elias Room
JR. CONGREGATION | Ages 5-12 | 10:30 am | Little Synagogue
KIDDUSH | Levy Auditorium | *Sponsored by the Soloveichik family in honor of the Cubs winning the World Series*

SEUDAH SHELISHIT AND PIRKEI ABOT AFTERNOON SHIUR | Rabbi Soloveichik on the topic "The Remarkable Memory of Rabbi Meir" | 4:20 pm | Levy Auditorium | *Fall semester sponsored by Lewis Lipsey*
MINHAH/ARBIT | 5:20 PM
HABDALAH | 6:16 pm

Weekday Service Times
Mornings: Sunday: 8:00 AM, Monday-Friday: 7:15 AM
Evenings (Arbit Only): Monday - Thursday: 6:30PM

Daylight savings time ends this Sunday morning. Remember to push your clocks back one hour before you go to sleep on Saturday night.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

NYC Marathon This Sunday, November 6

Best of luck to our nonagenarian member and honorary trustee, Col. Jonathan de Sola Mendes, who will once again be running in the marathon.

PTTS Brunch and Learn With Rabbi Soloveichik

5th-8th grade PTTS families are reminded that this Sunday is the first of this year's new Brunch and Learn series. Please join your children for Tefilla at 10AM and then proceed to the Elias Room for a parent-child session with the rabbi.

The Election of 1800 and our Polity Today:

Negative Campaigning, Politics, and the Jews

Next Monday, November 7 | 7:00 pm | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Don't Miss This Unique Pre-Election Lecture

Women's Service

Parashat Lekh-Lekha, Saturday November 12

Little Synagogue | 9:00 am

Interested in learning a part for a future women's service? Contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-csi@yahoo.com to learn more.

The Esther Goldfarb Memorial Blood Drive

Sunday, November 13, 2016 | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Give the Gift of Life and be a Blood Donor. To sign up, email RitaRodin165@aol.com. *Sponsored by the Shearith Israel League*

A Very American Community Shabbat Dinner

Friday Night, November 18

In anticipation of Thanksgiving, come to Shearith Israel for a special Shabbat dinner program featuring award winning writer-journalist, **Melanie Kirkpatrick**, author of *Thanksgiving: The Holiday at the Heart of the American Experience* in conversation with Rabbi Soloveichik. Together, they will give a vivid portrait of the history of our nation's- and our synagogue's-- most beloved national holiday. Also in attendance will be a select group of YU and Stern students who will be spending an American Jewish history shabbaton with us. Be a CSI goodwill ambassador and role model to these young adults while learning a thing or two about Thanksgiving.

Don't delay; prices go up after November 10.

Register at shearithisrael.org/american-dinner.

Thanksgiving Pack-a-thon 2016

Thursday, November 24 | 10-11:30 am

Building on the success of last year's Pack-a-thon, this year, for this very important *hesed* project, we will be partnering with the **West End Collegiate Church** and also with the **Jewish Center** as part of our "Achdut in Action" Initiative. On Thanksgiving morning, after Rabbi Soloveichik's special Thanksgiving address, UJA will have us set up in Levy Auditorium to pack over one thousand meals to be distributed to hungry New Yorkers. We are delighted to report that we have already secured a matching grant from a generous donor who will give \$3 for every \$1 donated to this project (with a \$10,000 cap). We have a variety of roles for volunteers and volunteers are asked to donate a minimum of \$18 to help us reach our overall goal of \$18,000. We have raised around \$3,500 so far. All proceeds will go to the **Met Council on Poverty's** hunger relief program. Register at shearithisrael.org/pack-a-thon2016

Save the Date:

Mikveh Israel Shabbaton in Philadelphia

Shabbat Toledoth, December 2-3

Join Rabbi Soloveichik and a group of his YU/Stern honors students for an illuminating Shabbaton at our sister S&P synagogue, Mikveh Israel in Philadelphia. Stay tuned for registration information.

Friday Night Lights Is Back!

Every Friday Night | Following Evening Services

The 2016-2017 season is sponsored by the Julis Family.

As Shabbat begins earlier and the nights grow longer, stay around for a bit after Friday evening services for an inspiring shiur delivered by Rabbi Soloveichik. There's no better way to transition from the work week to Shabbat.



FNL goes social. Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc and discover our FNL topics and share with your friends.

WEEKDAY JUDAIC EDUCATION

For details go to: shearithisrael.org/judaic-education

Sunday

- ◇ **Saadiyah Gaon's Book of Beliefs and Opinions** | Sjimon den Hollander | 8:45 am

Monday

- ◇ **Monday Night Learning: A Series of Series** | Series 1 "Early America and the Jews" | Rabbi Soloveichik | 7:00 pm | BEGINS THIS WEEK

Tuesday

- ◇ **Katzap Class and Breakfast** | Following Morning Services BEGINS THIS WEEK
- ◇ **Feasts and Fasts: The Festivals in Jewish Thought- A Class for Women** | Rabbi Soloveichik | 9:00 am | BEGINS THIS WEEK
- ◇ **Talmud Class** | Rabbi Soloveichik | 7:00 pm (NEW TIME) | BEGINS NOV. 15

To sponsor a single class or an entire semester, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsoraaclass

OTHER INITIATIVES

Hard time remembering RSVP deadlines?

We can remind you by text. Enroll at: shearithisrael.org/text-message-notifications

Yoetzet Halakha

If you have any questions regarding Taharat Hamishpaha (Jewish Family Law) laws of Niddah, sexuality and women's health, please contact our Yoetzet Halakha, Ilana Gadish in confidence at (646) 598-1080 or nycyoetzet@gmail.com.

Don't let us go dry.

Be a scotch or arak sponsor. To sponsor or contribute go to shearithisrael.org/scotch-and-arak-sponsorships